



Home	Bill Information	California Law	Publications	Other Resources	My Subscriptions	My Favorites
------	------------------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------

AB-1594 Medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles: public agency utilities. (2023-2024)

SHARE THIS:  

Date Published: 10/10/2023 09:00 PM

Assembly Bill No. 1594

CHAPTER 585

An act to add the heading of Division 12.5 (commencing with Section 28500) to, and to add Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 28500) to Division 12.5 of, the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

[Approved by Governor October 08, 2023. Filed with Secretary of State October 08, 2023.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1594, Garcia. Medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles: public agency utilities.

Executive Order No. N-79-20 establishes the goal of transitioning medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in California to zero-emission vehicles by 2045 for all operations where feasible and by 2035 for drayage trucks, and requires the State Air Resources Board to develop and propose medium- and heavy-duty vehicle regulations to meet that goal.

Existing law establishes the Air Quality Improvement Program that is administered by the board for purposes of funding projects related to, among other things, the reduction of criteria air pollutants and improvement of air quality, and establishes the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet Purchasing Assistance Program within the Air Quality Improvement Program to make financing tools and nonfinancial supports available to operators of medium- and heavy-duty vehicle fleets to enable those operators to transition their fleets to zero-emission vehicles.

This bill would require any state regulation that seeks to require, or otherwise compel, the procurement of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles to authorize public agency utilities to purchase replacements for traditional utility-specialized vehicles that are at the end of life when needed to maintain reliable service and respond to major foreseeable events, including severe weather, wildfires, natural disasters, and physical attacks, as specified. The bill would define a public agency utility to include a local publicly owned electric utility, a community water system, a water district, and a wastewater treatment provider, as specified.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Public agency utility vehicles are essential to maintaining reliable water and electric service, achieving the state's ambitious energy and water goals, for responding to disasters in an emergency capacity, and for providing mutual aid assistance in the state and nationwide.

(b) Public agency utility vehicles are operated under various weather and geographic conditions and zero-emission vehicle procurement plans for public agency utilities should be reasonably tailored to support each public agency utility's ability to

respond to major disruption events, including, but not limited to, severe weather, wildfires, natural disasters, and physical attacks, and to maintain reliable utility services to California communities.

SEC. 2. The heading of Division 12.5 (commencing with Section 28500) is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

DIVISION 12.5. Zero-Emission Vehicles

SEC. 3. Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 28500) is added to Division 12.5 of the Vehicle Code, to read:

CHAPTER 1. Public Agency Utility Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles

28500. (a) "Public agency utility" means a local publicly owned electric utility, as defined in Section 224.3 of the Public Utilities Code, a community water system, as defined in Section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, a water district, as defined in Section 20200 of the Water Code, and a wastewater treatment provider, as defined in Section 116773.2 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) Any state regulation that seeks to require, or otherwise compel, the procurement of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles shall authorize public agency utilities to purchase replacements for traditional utility-specialized vehicles that are at the end of life, as determined by the State Air Resources Board in consultation with public agency utilities, when needed to maintain reliable service and respond to major foreseeable events, including, but not limited to, severe weather, wildfires, natural disasters, and physical attacks, without regard to the model year of the vehicle being replaced. For the purposes of determining the daily usage of a medium- or heavy-duty vehicle, a public agency utility may provide comprehensive usage data for a class of vehicles that does not exclusively rely on the lowest mileage reading and does not exclude the highest usage days.